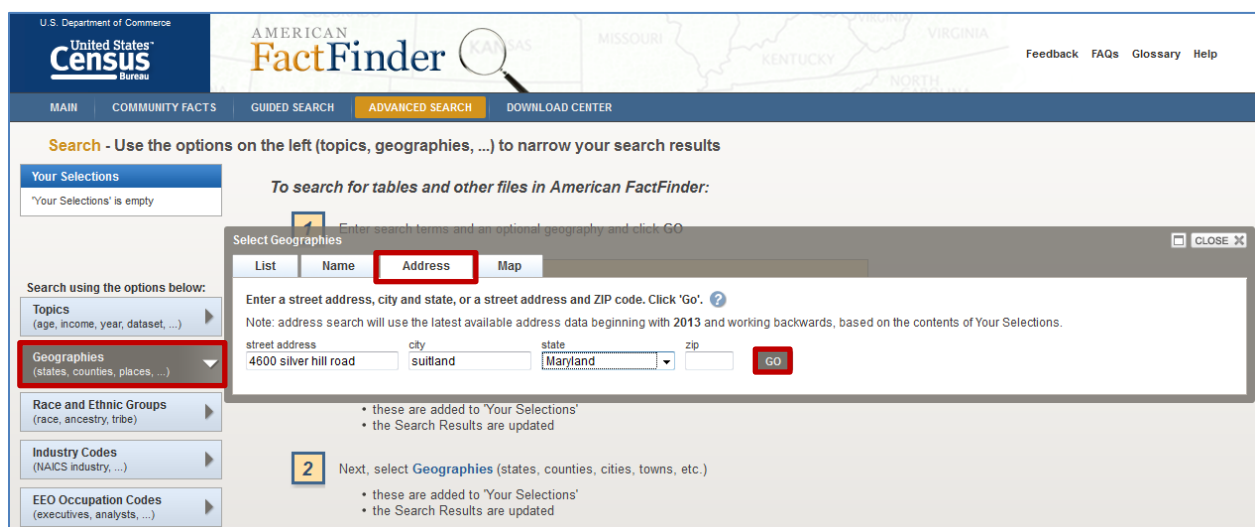# How to Access American Community Survey Block-Group-Level Estimates in American FactFinder

American Community Survey (ACS) block-group-level estimates are available through American FactFinder (AFF) for 5-year estimates starting with the 2009-2013 data file. For earlier years, block groups are available only in the ACS 5-year Summary File. Learn more about the ACS Summary File at www.census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/technical-documentation/summary-file-documentation.html. The instructions below show you how to access block groups using AFF.

1. Access American FactFinder at factfinder.census.gov, then click on "Advanced Search" from the blue toolbar.

2. Click on the "Geographies" box on the left side of the screen. The "Select Geographies" overlay appears. If you do not know the ID for your block group of interest, click on the "Address" tab. Enter the address of interest, then click "GO." In this example, we used the address for the U.S. Census Bureau at 4600 Silver Hill Road, Suitland, MD.

3. The "Geography Results" display the many different types of geography associated with an address. Click on the "Geography Name" in blue corresponding to the "Geography Type," "Block Group within Census Tract." Here, it is "Block Group 1, Census Tract 8024.05, Prince George's County, Maryland." When you click on the "Geography Name," it is added to "Your Selections" in the upper left corner of AFF. Next, close the "Select Geographies" overlay by clicking on the "CLOSE" button in the upper right side of the screen.

4. You can also find block groups by clicking on the "Geographies" box on the left side of the screen and using the "List" tab from the "Select Geographies" overlay. Make sure you choose the radio button "most requested geographic types," not "all geographic types." Under "Select a geographic type," use the drop down menu to choose "Block Group-150."

5. Under "Select a state," use the drop down menu to pick your state of interest. In this example, we used Maryland. Next, under "Select a county," use the drop down menu to pick your county of interest. Here, we used Prince George's County. Under "Select one or more geographic areas and click Add to Your Selections," click on "All Block Groups within Prince George's County, Maryland." Then, click the "ADD TO YOUR SELECTIONS" button.

6. "Your Selections" in the upper left corner of AFF now displays "All Block Groups within Prince George's County, Maryland." Next, close the "Select Geographies" overlay by clicking on the "CLOSE" button on the upper right side of the screen.

7. The "Search Results" display all of the tables available for the block group(s) you selected. You can further refine this search to your dataset of interest by clicking on the "Topics" box on the left side of the screen. Click on the plus sign (+) next to "Dataset," then click on a particular data set to add it to "Your Selections."

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8. You can further refine this search by clicking on the "Topics" box on the left side of the screen. Click on the plus sign (+) next to "People" and/or "Housing" to find your topic of interest. In this example, we selected People→Education→Field of Degree. Click on Field of Degree to add it to "Your Selections." Close the "Select Topics" overlay by clicking on the "CLOSE" button on the upper right side of the screen.

9. The "Search Results" now display Field of Degree tables from the chosen dataset for the block group(s) you selected. You can view a table by clicking on the blue table title or checking the box to the left of the "ID" column, then clicking "View."

10. Once you open your table(s) of interest, you can Bookmark, Print, Download, or Create a Map from the table.

If you have additional questions, please contact our call center at 1-800-923-8282 or submit a question at https://ask.census.gov/newrequest.php.